MARVEL COMICS®

© 1992 MARVEL ENT. GROUP, INC. ™

$1.25 US
$1.50 CAN
95
DEC
UK 85p

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

SPIRITS OF VENOM PART 1

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™

30TH ANNIVERSARY 1962 1992

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

VENOM™! GHOST RIDER®! JOHNNY BLAZE™!

*BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!*

Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™

SPIRITS OF VENOM PART 1 OF 4
STORM SHADOWS
MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.
COME ON, SPIDER-MAN GIVE ME A BREAK HERE...
...I'M GOING TO CATCH PNEUMONIA WITH YOU DRAGGING ME THROUGH THIS STORM.
THAT WOULD BE A REAL SHAME, MACENDALE!
MACKIE WRITER
SAVIUK PENCILER
RUBINSTEIN INKER
SHARPE LETTERER
SHAREN COLORIST
FINGEROTH EDITOR
DeFALCO CHIEF

© 2016 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or insititution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.WWW.MARVEL.COM

YOU'RE NOT STILL MAD ABOUT *KATZENBERG*, ARE YOU?

I HAD NO CHOICE.

THE *FOREIGNER* WOULD HAVE KILLED ME IF I DIDN'T TRY AND OFF THE FAT SLOB.

ANYWAY, YOU STOPPED ME FROM KILLING HIM.

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW HE'D HAVE A *HEART ATTACK**?

* LAST ISSUE. --DANNY

COME ON! IT WAS JUST A *JOB*, NOTHING--

WHAT--?

DO NOT TELL ME THAT IT'S *NOTHING PERSONAL!* THAT IT WAS STRICTLY *BUSINESS*.

I'M *SICK* OF HEARING THAT LINE.

WHEN LIVES ARE AT STAKE-- IT'S *VERY* PERSONAL!

THWIP

AAAA

NOW JUST SHUT UP FOR THE REST OF THE TRIP TO THE POLICE STATION, OR I'LL DROP YOU AGAIN!

MACENDALE.

THE *DEMON TAINT* IN YOUR BLOOD WILL NOT BE WASHED CLEAN BY THIS STORM,

MY TAINT!

IT CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO SURVIVE, *MINDLESS ONE.*

DO WITH *SPIDER-MAN* AS YOU WISH. *KILL* HIM IF YOU MUST-- HE, TOO, MUST BE A SINNER. BUT REMEMBER...

...I MUST KILL MACENDALE.

HE AND I WERE ONCE ONE.

SOON ONLY ONE WILL BE LEFT AGAIN.

VRIT

SPIDER-SENSE GOING CRAZY!

GOT TO ACT ON...

...INSTINCT!

WHAT ARE YOU-- NUTS?

WE'RE GOING TO SPLATTER ALL OVER THE PAVE-MENT!

WHAP

SHUT UP, MACENDALE!

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!

I HOPE!

THWAP

SNAG A ROOF-TOP...

...LET THE SPEED OF OUR FALL ARC US BACK UPWARDS AND...

...BINGO! WE HAVE THE HIGH GROUND.

NOW TO SEE IF I CAN SPOT MY EVIL TWIN!

NOTHING?

AND ALL THE LIGHTS ARE OUT FOR BLOCKS.

IT *COULD* JUST BE THE STORM, OR IT COULD BE SOMETHING *WORSE**!

ARE YOU GOING TO UNTIE ME *NOW*?!

I CAN HELP YOU TAKE CARE OF THAT MONSTER LIKE I DID THE LAST TIME... **

*SEE **SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #3** FOR THE CAUSE OF THE BLACKOUT.--DANNY

...ONLY *THIS* TIME I'LL MAKE SURE IT *STAYS* DEAD

**SPIDER-MAN #25.--DANNY

SHUT UP, *HOBGOBLIN.*

I'M NOT LETTING YOU LOOSE, AND I DON'T *NEED* YOUR HELP.

I'M TAKING YOU TO THE POLICE.

YOU ARE GOING TO START PAYING FOR YOUR CRIMES. YOU'VE *KILLED* TOO MANY PEOPLE.

AND IF *NICK KATZENBERG* DIES...

...YOU *ARE* GOING TO PAY!

OH, THE *SINNER* WILL PAY...

...*TONIGHT!*

OH, NO! NOT *HIM!*

YES, HOBGOBLIN...

...IT IS I!

THE MOST HOLY OF ALL SINNERS.

THE ONE WHO WILL TRIUMPH OVER ALL SINNERS

THE ONE WHO WAS FORCED TO SUFFER THE INDIGNITY OF SHARING YOUR BODY...

...YOUR SOUL!

AND NOW, THE ONE WHO SHALL ONCE AGAIN ASSUME THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

I WILL SEE YOU...

...ALL OF YOUR KIND...

... AND ANY WHO SEEK TO PROTECT YOU BURN FOR ALL ETERNITY IN THE FIERY PIT!

I GUESS THE *PROTECTING* PART APPLIES TO ME!

YOU'RE GOING TO OWE ME *BIG TIME* FOR THIS ONE, MACENDALE!

AS YOU WISH, *SPIDER-MAN!*

YOUR DEATH, OR THAT OF ANY *HUMAN*--FOR YOU ARE *ALL* SINNERS--MEANS *NOTHING* TO ME

MY MIND-LESS ASSOCIATE HAS AN INBRED DESIRE FOR YOUR ENTRAILS, SO...

...PROTECT YOURSELF OR MACENDALE!

EVENTUALLY YOU WILL BOTH ROT IN THE SAME PIT!

LET ME LOOSE! I CAN--!

SHUT UP! I'M TRYING TO SAVE OUR LIVES!

I THOUGHT THIS THING WAS DEAD, TOO!

ALL OF THE DOPPEL-GANGERS DISAPPEARED WHEN THE *MAGUS* WAS DEFEATED.*

*INFINITY WAR #6.--D.

HOW DID THIS ONE SURVIVE?

MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE *DEMOGOBLIN'S* SUPERNATURAL POWERS!

WELL, *SUPER-NATURAL...*

...THIS!

THAT TANGLE OF ARMS AND LEGS SHOULD BUY US ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE OUR GET-AWAY!

IF YOU'D TAKE THIS WEBBING OFF ME, WE'D TRAVEL A LOT QUICKER!

MACENDALE--

--JUST HOLD ON.

IN A FEW MINUTES WE'LL BE SO DEEP WITHIN THE CITY THAT THOSE TWO WON'T STAND A CHANCE OF..

VRIT

SNAP!

...FINDING US...

HOW APPROPRIATE...

...THAT THE SINNERS SHOULD DIE ON THE GROUNDS OF ONE OF THIS WORLD'S HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

COME--LET US ENSURE THEIR DEATHS.

SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...

A SERIES OF INTER-CONNECTING **TUNNELS** AND **PLAZAS** RUNS BENEATH THE STREETS AND BUILDINGS OF MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.

OTHER TUNNELS, LESS USED, ADJOIN THE MAIN TUNNELS.

DANK TUNNELS.

DARK TUNNELS.

WITHIN ONE SUCH TUNNEL WE FIND...

...**GHOST RIDER** AND **JOHN BLAZE** IN PURSUIT OF HALF-HUMAN CREATURES KNOWN AS THE **DEATHSPAWN.**

YOU ALWAYS TAKE ME TO THE MOST **IN-TERESTING** PLACES.

NO TRIP TO NEW YORK IS COMPLETE WITHOUT A VISIT TO A **SEWER.**

HAG AND **TROLL** MUST NOT SUCCEED IN BRINGING **DEATHWATCH** BACK TO LIFE.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE **DEATHSPAWN?** WE SEEM TO BE A BIT OUTNUMBERED BY YOUR BUDDY DEATH-WATCH'S **PROGENY.**

THERE ARE OTHER **LIVES** AT STAKE DOWN HERE,* I CANNOT ALLOW **MORE** INNOCENT BLOOD TO BE SPILLED.

*THIS WAS RE-VEALED AT THE END OF **SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE** #5. --DANNY

YOU FEEL LIKE THE SHADOWS ARE CLOSING IN ON US AGAIN?

LIKE SOMETHING IS WATCHING US FROM...

...RIGHT **THERE!**

WRONG BAD GUY, JOHNNY!

NOW POINT THAT THING SOMEWHERE ELSE, BECAUSE...

...WE'RE SURROUNDED!

YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THEM?

NOPE. I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU EVER SINCE YOU CAME DOWN HERE, JOHNNY.

...AND HERE THEY ARE NOW.

ALWAYS OUT OF SIGHT, BUT WITHIN EARSHOT. SEEMS TO ME THAT ALL *THREE* OF US BOTH ARE AFTER THE SAME KILLERS...

IN A WAY, WE MUST *THANK* YOU GENTLEMEN FOR FOLLOWING US DOWN HERE INTO OUR INNERMOST SANCTUM.

YES. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE *DEATHSPAWN* CAN ABSORB YOUR LIFE FORCE, GHOST RIDER.

YOUR DEATH WILL SERVE AS *PAYMENT* FOR THAT WHICH YOU DID TO DEATHWATCH.

IF ANYONE IS GOING TO DIE AROUND HERE, IT'S GOING TO BE YOU TWO FOR WHAT YOU DID TO THE INNOCENT *GUARDSMEN!**

OH, REALLY?

*LAST ISSUE.--D.

WOULD YOU MEAN--

--LIKE THIS?

NICE TRY, BUNKY!

BUT I'M STILL GOING TO SLURP DOWN YOUR AND THE LITTLE LADY'S *BRAINS* FOR WHAT YOU DID!

AND ALL THESE SHADOW CREATURES AREN'T GOING TO *STOP* ME FROM AVENGING THE LIVES THAT YOU TOOK!

AT THAT MOMENT...

OOH, MY ACHING ARMS!

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO ON A **DIET**, MACENDALE...

...IF YOU WANT ME TO SAVE YOU FROM A TWENTY-SEVEN STORY FALL AGAIN!

IF YOU'D JUST LET ME GO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO KEEP LUGGING ME AROUND LIKE THIS!

GIVE IT UP, MAC.

I'M MAKING SURE THAT YOU ARE PUT **SECURELY** AWAY THIS TIME.

NOW LET'S JUST HIDE IN THIS CHURCH UNTIL WE'RE SURE WE'VE LOST THE CREEPY GHOULIES! AND THEN...

WHO'S THERE?

OH MY WORD!

SPIDER-MAN?

FATHER, I NEED HELP. THERE ARE...

SAY NO MORE, SPIDER-MAN. I AM WELL AWARE OF THE **GOOD** THAT YOU HAVE DONE IN THIS CITY.

FOLLOW ME. I WILL TAKE YOU DEEP BENEATH THE CHURCH. YOU WILL BE **SAFE** THERE FROM WHOEVER IS AFTER YOU.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

A TRULY MAJESTIC EDIFICE...

...ONE WORTHY OF THE PURE OF HEART.

ONE WORTHY OF THE FIRST STEPS IN MY MISSION HERE ON EARTH...

...THE DEATH OF ALL *DEMONS.*

STOP!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THIS IS A CHURCH. HALLOWED GROUND. THERE IS NO PLACE FOR YOUR KIND HERE.

RAAAARRHH!

BLESSED FATHER, PROTECT ME!

NO! MINDLESS ONE!

THE HOLY ONE MUST *NOT* BE HARMED. ONLY THE *SINNERS*.

I COMMAND YOU TO LEAVE THIS CHURCH!

NO, PRIEST!

THE DEMON TAINT IS IN THE AIR! I WILL REMOVE ITS SOURCE FROM YOUR HALLOWED GROUND.

PERHAPS IT IS YOUR *OWN* EVIL SCENT THAT YOU SMELL? PERHAPS IT IS *YOU* WHO SHOULD BE DESTROYED?

PERHAPS.

BUT THAT IS A TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED...

...ONLY AFTER ALL *OTHER* DEMONS HAVE *FALLEN*.

WHAT HAS THE FATHER DONE? HE SAID HE WAS GOING FOR BLANKETS.

LET *GO* OF HIM, MONSTER!

WITH *PLEASURE*-- FOR *HIS* IS NOT THE DEATH WHICH I SEEK.

ELSEWHERE...

WHO'RE OUR FRIENDS, BOYS ?

THEY ARE THE *SPAWN* OF THE DEMON *DEATH-WATCH!*

THEY LIVE ONLY TO *KILL.*

I THINK THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN HUMAN BEFORE *DEATH-WATCH* GOT A HOLD OF THEM.

WE DON'T *REALLY* CARE WHO THEY ARE, OR WE'RE THEY COME FROM. *IF* THEY'RE PROTECTING THESE TWO KILLERS...

...THEY'RE GOING TO *DIE!*

WE'LL TAKE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.

YES. THERE ARE OTHER INNOCENT LIVES AT RISK IN THESE TUNNELS.

THEY MUST NOT FALL TO THE *DEATH-SPAWN.*

BOOM BOOM BOOM

CATCHY NAME, BUT...

...*VENOM,* IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND, WE COULD USE SOME *HELP* OVER HERE ?

HELP *YOURSELF!* *WE'VE* GOT OUR OWN AGENDA.

FINE!

I WILL!

GET THAT CHAIN READY, GHOST RIDER, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE-- WITHOUT ***VENOM'S*** HELP.

BOOM BOOM

COME ON! THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM!

LET'S AT LEAST TAKE THE HIGH GROUND THROUGH THE ***HOLE*** I BLASTED!

WHAT A SPLENDID IDEA!

WE COULD USE A LITTLE SOLITUDE WHILE WE KILL THESE TWO!

YOU ALL TAKE CARE NOW...

...'BYE!

AT THAT MOMENT...

YOU WANTED THE PRIEST, SPIDER-MAN?

TAKE HIM!

I GIVE YOU HIS LIFE IN EXCHANGE FOR THAT OF MACENDALE!

FATHER!

BOOM

SEE, SINNER, THE FIERY PITS BECKON FOR YOU!

IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO ROT IN--

OH, NO! I DON'T NEED THIS TONIGHT!

WHAT?

OH, THIS IS *TOO* GOOD!

HERE WE THOUGHT WE'D FEAST ON GIZZARDS OF THESE TWO KILLERS...

...BUT NOW IT APPEARS THAT FATE HAS SMILED ON US.

I *REALLY* DON'T NEED THIS!

SPIDER-MAN!

IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY YOU BETRAYED US.

AND AFTER WE HELPED YOU DEFEAT *CARNAGE!**

OH, WELL! THESE TWO CAN WAIT UNTIL AFTER I'VE SUCKED THE MARROW FROM *YOUR* BONES.

*AMAZING #363.--D.

GRRRRRRRRR!

OOPH!

IT APPEARS THAT MY MINDLESS SERVANT IS FEELING PROTECTIVE OF YOU, SPIDER-MAN...

...OR PERHAPS HE IS SAVING YOU FOR HIMSELF?

NOW, ***MACENDALE...***

BOOM

BLAZE? GHOST RIDER?

YEAH, GREAT RUNNING INTO YOU, TOO!

DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'VE RUN INTO ***VENOM?*** I'VE GOT A THING OR TWO I'D LIKE TO SAY TO HIM!

BOOM BOOM BOOM

NO KIDDING?

WHO'S HE?

DEMONS!

YOU ***DON'T*** WANT TO BE INTRODUCED.

I HAVE BEEN BLESSED!

TONIGHT, ONE OF THE TRUE **DEMONKIND** SHALL FALL BY HANDS.

DIE, ZARATHOS!

NOW HE'S DONE IT! GHOST RIDER **HATES** BEING CALLED ZARATHOS.

BOY, IS OLD ORANGE-FACE IN TROUBLE **NOW!**

CAN THE WITTY COMMENTS, BLAZE. THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE **MY** DEPARTMENT. WHAT **ARE** THESE THINGS?

IT'S A LONG STORY.

I CAN TELL YOU THEY'RE NOT THE **GOOD** GUYS AND...

...THEY'D LIKE TO SEE US **ALL** DEAD.

SPIDER-MAN!

HELP **ME!**

LOOKS LIKE THE PARTY IS HEADING BACK DOWNSTAIRS!

HALF A DOZEN BURSTS OF **HELL-FIRE** SHOULD CLEAR THE ROOM OF THE REST OF THESE THINGS AND THEN...

...IT LOOKS LIKE I GO WHERE **GHOST RIDER** GOES.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I HATE IT!

BLAZE! DON'T!

I CAN'T BELIEVE ALL THAT REALLY HAPPENED, FATHER.

AND I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ACTUALLY THINKING OF GOING DOWN THERE TO JOIN THE MADNESS.

SOME OF THOSE FIGHTING DOWN THERE HAVE BEEN MY ALLIES...

...MORE ***ARE*** MY ENEMIES.

ENEMIES THAT WOULD JUST AS SOON SEE ME ***DEAD*** IN THOSE TUNNELS.

I HAVE A WIFE. A FAMILY. HOW CAN I TAKE THE RISK?

NO ONE WILL THINK LESS OF YOU.

ALL I SAY IS...

...FOLLOW YOUR ***HEART.*** IT WILL TELL YOU WHAT IS RIGHT.

YOU ARE A GOOD MAN. YOU'VE SAVED COUNTLESS LIVES. YOU...

FATHER!

ALL RIGHT ALREADY! YOU MADE YOUR ***POINT!***

I'M GOING DOWN INTO THIS FIGHT...***WHATEVER*** IT IS.

WHATEVER THE OUTCOME!

CONTINUED IN ***SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #5,*** AND THEN NEXT MONTH IN ***WEB #96*** WITH ***GHOST RIDER*** AND ***BLAZE*** STILL ALONG! (AND DON'T MISS THE ***MARK TEXEIRA*** PAINTED COVER!)